

RAILROADS ON HAWAII.

On Wednesday the Hon. S. G. Wilder very courteously favored the Assembly with some very interesting information on the subject of railways on the island of Hawaii. He stated that he had had the country which lies between Hamakua and Hilo surveyed at an expense to himself of \$5,000. He represents a corporation to whom the Government have agreed to subsidize any railroad they may build to the extent of \$2,500 a mile. He received that subsidy for the Kohala railroad. That road extends 20 miles within a few yards. It cost \$14,000 a mile. Of that the Government paid \$2,500 per mile and the company the balance. It had been estimated in the Assembly that the distance had been unnecessarily extended in order to obtain more subsidy, to which Mr. Wilder replied by asking what advantage it was to the company to pay the balance of \$11,500 per mile? The road through Hamakua to Hilo would have to be built in a similar manner to the Kohala railroad, that is to run up the gulches and cross where practicable. The Kohala railroad had been in operation for two years, and so far no accident had happened. The road to Kukuiahae can be built, but it would cost more than the Kohala railroad. The company which he (Mr. Wilder) represented were prepared to build it, and the Government can afford to spend more money on it than \$2,500 a mile. This railroad would open extensive sugar lands, sufficient to engage all the Portuguese on the Islands and 10,000 more, who could engage in many things besides the cultivation of sugar.

Mr. Wilder further stated that there is not a place on these Islands, outside of Hamakua, where a man can get 500 acres of land suitable for cane-growing. At the present prices of sugar, he did not think that a subsidy of \$2,500 a mile would induce capitalists to build a road. He, individually, was not afraid to go into the matter, as he firmly believed it would result in good to the Government as well as to the country generally. The road from Hilo to Kukuiahae, a distance of 70 miles, could be built for \$20,000 a mile, and in Mr. Wilder's opinion, if the Legislative Assembly would change the subsidy to \$5,000 a mile, there are parties who could be induced to take hold of the business.

Mr. Wilder's proposition is one that is worthy the deepest consideration by the Legislative Assembly, and it is to be hoped they will see the advisability of increasing the present subsidy allowed by the law. Railways are indispensable where produce has to be carried long distances, more especially where the country is cut up with deep ravines, as is the case on Hawaii. The support accorded Mr. Wilder in Kohala by the Government induced him to build one of the most tortuous railways in the world, and where the difficulties and expenses are increased, it is only reasonable to suppose that that support will be increased, more especially when the grand results to the country that would accrue from such a stupendous undertaking are considered.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Yesterday was duly observed in this city in a most impressive manner. In the forenoon flags were displayed at half-mast by the shipping in the harbor and also on the flagstaffs in the city.

At about 2:45 P.M. the column moved, in the following order:

- 1—Royal Hawaiian Band.
- 2—Geo. W. DeLong Post and visiting comrades.
- 3—Soldiers and sailors honorably discharged from the U. S. service.
- 4—Soldiers and sailors now in the U. S. service.
- 5—Sons of veteran soldiers.
- 6—The American Minister Resident and American Consul in carriages.
- 7—Members of the Cabinet, Governor Robinson and staff, Representatives of other Nations and Members of the Hawaiian Assembly, in carriages.
- 8—Disabled comrades in carriages.
- 9—Car containing 35 little girls representing the States of the American Union.
- 10—American citizens.
- 11—Residents of the Islands.

The line of march was as follows: Up Fort to Berea, along Berea to Kuanu, up Kuanu to the cemetery, where the new Post lot was dedicated and decoration services were only observed. The contributions of flowers were very liberal, and in addition to several wagon-loads, every lady and gentleman carried a bouquet, which found a place at or near the graves of the departed.

On arriving at the cemetery the Secretary, Mr. J. H. Paty, handed, with appropriate remarks, the deeds of the George W. DeLong Post lot to Commander Samuel Nott, in the name of the trustees of the Oahu Cemetery. After receiving them the Commander said: "In the name of my comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, representing as they do all soldiers and sailors who defended and upheld the integrity and authority of the Federal Government of the United States of America, I accept this deed and the sacred trust which it conveys. Comrade Chaplain Cruzan, you will now proceed to dedicate this lot to the uses and purposes for which it has been obtained—that of a last resting-place for the patriotic soldiers and sailors of America who may 'fall on sleep' in this distant land."

The Chaplain then proceeded as follows: Ever since Abraham obtained the field of Ebron as a burial place, and Jacob set up a pillar over the grave of Rachel, it has been the fitting custom of man to hold as sacred certain spots of earth, where, when the spirit leaves the clay tabernacle, the body may have a hallowed resting place. Following this time-honored custom we would here, on this memorial day, set apart this burial lot for the use of the Grand Army of the Republic forever. The scripture saith: "There is no discharge in that war. What man is he that liveth and shall not see death? Yet ye all shall be brought to the grave, and remain in the tomb." Aye, our bodies are mortal, decay hath already touched them. "Earth to earth, dust to dust, ashes to ashes." May the comrades who shall be buried here "find the clods of the valley sweet unto them."

Master Hagan then scattered some evergreens on the lot and said: May the evergreen, emblem of immortality, grow over their loyal graves and declare to every onlooker the fact that these men never die, but live for ever.

May Dillingham next strewed some flowers around saying: May flowers planted by loving hands speak to all of the victor's wreaths awaiting those who "fight the good fight, finish the course and keep the faith." Comrade Cruzan continued: "Let us pray. We thank Thee for our country. May Thy blessing ever rest upon America in the future as in the past. We thank Thee for Thy sovereign care and protection over her; that Thou didst lead us as a people in the days that were shadowed with trouble, and givest us strength when the burden was heavy; that Thou didst raise up brave and true men to defend our country when her existence as a nation was threatened. We thank Thee that the wrath of war has been stilled; that brother no longer strives against brother; that once again we have one country and one flag. We pray Thee to make our memories steadfast, that we may never forget the sacrifice made for our country. May our dead be enshrined in our hearts. May their graves be the altars of our grateful and reverent patriotism. And now, O God, bless and hallow this spot of earth as a burial place for America's patriots who perilled their lives for their country. Hallow it for the sake of the mothers who bade their sons do brave deeds. Hallow it for the sake of the wives who freely gave their husbands to their country's service. Hallow it for the sake of the children who count as their richest heritage brave patriot fathers. Hallow it for the sake of the brave men who went forth to do battle for Thee, for right, for humanity. O God, guard and protect this sacred spot. May Thine own angels stand sentinel around it until the resurrection morn. Amen!"

After the prayer, Comrade Cruzan dedicated the lot in the following language: In the name of the Grand Army of the Republic, I hereby solemnly dedicate and set apart this ground to the burial of all good and true men who perilled their lives in defense of the American Union. I consecrate it as a resting place for those who, in the navy, guarded our coasts; and on rivers, lakes, and seas perilled life in defense of country. Let it be a sacred resting place for those who, in the army, fought for our homes—our native land. I dedicate it as a burial place for all those who, on land, or on sea, fought for the Union, for the authority of the Constitution, for the Flag, and for Freedom, Liberty, and Equality.

To the sentiment "Our Comrades Absent from Roll Call," Comrade J. Green responded in the following touching manner: Men have reckoned the cost to the national treasury of the war of the rebellion, but human wisdom will never compute the price paid in physical suffering, mental anguish and crushed hopes. The tiny bullet, when it had left its victim dead or wounded on the field, did not stop there, but sped on, piercing the hearts of fond mothers and wives, carrying gloom and desolation into ten thousand homes, blighting the fondest hopes of youth and old age, robbing mothers and children of their only earthly support. Two hundred and seventy-nine thousand three hundred and seventy-six fell on the field, in the hospitals and prison pens of the South. To-day that great and busy nation turns aside from its pursuits and covers with flowers some of the graves of that great army of comrades who are absent from roll call to-day. Their graves dot every hillside and valley, and make part of every family and public cemetery, from the extreme north to the southern borders of the great republic, from the rock-bound hills of New England, westward to the Golden Gate. Aye, here beneath the sunny skies and evergreen peaks of Oahu, rest a number of those who offered their lives that the nation might live. But while we bring our floral offerings to the memory of those that we know, we do not forget the great post of comrades who sleep to-day where no mound is raised to mark the spot. They are scattered from the Potomac to the Mississippi, in the ravines and gulches, the charnel cesspool of Andersonville and Libby. They rest where we laid them, in the cotton fields, the cane fields and the rice swamps of Louisiana, unconfined and unshrouded, save with the tattered suit of blue, with no slab, no lettered monument to symbolize the affection of surviving friends. They sleep in nameless graves, unknown except to Him who has numbered the stars and called them by name. But the duties of the day, so full of these memories of the past, are alike suggestive of the future. We have prepared this beautiful spot as a resting-place for any of us who may be called upon to lay down our arms and go beyond "the pass of shadows."

And when the last comrade shall have been mustered out, and there shall be no post of the Grand Army of the Republic to make its annual pilgrimage to cover these graves with flowers, then our children, and children's children will remember the humble part we bore in that great struggle to preserve the union of the States, and transmit to them the legacy bequeathed to us—union and liberty—with the dear old flag, "without a single stripe erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured."

Dr. Hagan responded to the following sentiment: "The Widows and Orphans of Our Fallen Comrades."

At the close of the late war of the rebellion in the United States, there were fifty thousand widows and more than a hundred thousand orphan children. These noble women, with enthusiasm, with patriotism, with devotion never equaled, had encouraged and urged their husbands to join the army in the cause of liberty and for the preservation of the Union. These men, stimulated by the self-sacrifice and loyalty of their wives, and the love of their children, not only fought to arrest the insanity of secession and save the old flag, but finally fought to redeem a promise, or compact, in the Declaration of Independence, that every man should have the "right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." They fought and settled the question of human slavery, and they died to liberate four millions of souls. To the devoted patriotic women of America is largely due the accomplishment of these ends. Our noble heroic dead, whose memories we recall and honor to-day, were the men who helped to defend and maintain the old flag without the loss of a star. Disheartened at no defeat, discouraged by no obstacle, appalled by no danger, they neither paused nor swerved, but contributed their lives until a stainless flag floated over all our wide domain, and until every human being beneath its folds was absolutely free.

The observance of this occasion to-day gives assurance that time has not effaced from the hearts of the American people the sense of their obligation to these fallen heroes. Nor has the United States Government forgotten or neglected their widows and orphans. Millions and millions of dollars are paid annually to provide for them the necessities and comforts of their lives. This compensation of material wealth is but poor reward for their irreparable loss, but they further have the sympathy, love and aid of all the friends of the Union. And to-day the American nation bends over the graves of their heroic dead, and pays to them its tribute of gratitude and love.

The next sentiment was "The Army and Navy," which was felicitously responded to by Comrade Laine, as follows:

Comrades and Friends: I am called upon to respond for "The Army and Navy." I feel inadequate to the task, for it is a subject replete with glorious and patriotic acts on the part of our Army and Navy, from the days of Washington, Paul Jones and Perry, to those of Grant, Foote, Farragut, and the martyr, Lincoln. The battles of 1775, 1812 and 1863 were fought for that grand principle Freedom! a freedom which our beloved country guarantees to all regardless of color or creed. And she stands to-day preeminent as "the land of the free and the home of the brave," and that she is so, is due to our leaders Naval military and civilian. And to Washington, a name dear to all Americans, and his brave army we are indebted for the independence of the Colonies. And when, in 1861, the question arose, which shall it be, disunion and slavery? or union and freedom?

Thousands and tens of thousands of brave soldiers and sailors gave up their lives to perpetuate the great principles bequeathed to us by our fore fathers with the answer: "The Union it must and shall be preserved," and by the efforts of our brave army and navy, assisted by the "God of Battles," it was preserved; and our country is destined to remain for ever, "the sweet land of liberty" and we have assembled here to-day to honor our heroic dead, of the army and navy; and may we all strive to emulate their patriotic and heroic deeds, so that when our Great Commander shall muster us out, may we have lived such loyal fraternal and charitable lives, that He will say, "Well done, good and faithful servants."

Dr. N. B. Emerson then followed with this beautiful tribute to the day:

Comrades, in order to appreciate the beautiful significance of Decoration Day, let us transport ourselves in imagination to a land where rigorous winter, for half the circuit of the year, seals up the frozen bosom of the earth. There, when the warm air of the spring breathes again, and the vernal sun turns on his course, with what a joyful resurrection does dead nature leap into life from her dreamless sleep, and forgivingly deck her own grave with memorial flowers. The marks of war are more cruel and relentless than those of winter. But the loving hand of nature touches the scoured and blood-stained fields of Shiloh, of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and makes haste to decently cover the hallowed mould of the dead with sweet sod and the pancies of tender recollection. In feeble imitation of our kind mother Nature, to-day, my comrades, we come with flowers and memorial wreaths in our hands to deck the graves of our dead. But as we look about us, lo! Nature has anticipated our office; she has carpeted these mounds of the dead with velvet turf; she lifts aloft her banners of purple, of scarlet and of green, and waves them to the rhythm of the breeze. The decorations of Nature in this tropic clime are glorious. Yet our work to-day in this remote outpost of the Grand Army is not superfluous. It is linked by chains of tender recollections and a human sentiment, which lifts us above nature, to the great republic across the water are to-day enacting. The garlands, twined by fair and loving hands, that our nation this day places on its graves, shall fade and moulder into common dust, but the sentiment that inspires the deed is worthy to live forever. If our action shall serve to keep this sentiment alive in our hearts, and to keep green and fragrant the memory of the unselfish deeds of the brave men who offered their lives that the nation might live, our work of this day will not have been in vain.

At the conclusion of the services, the column returned to the Post Hall, where they were dismissed.

In the evening there was a continuation of the services at the Music Hall. The following programme was performed:

- Music—"Le Diademe Overture,"... Honolulu Symphony Club.
Roll Calls—Of Geo. W. DeLong Post.
Music—"Elegie Funeral March,"... Honolulu Symphony Club.
Prayer—... Comrade J. A. Cruzan.
Music—"The Star Spangled Banner,"... Solo by Mrs. Cruzan. Chorus by Choir and audience.
Original Poem—... Mrs. B. F. Dillingham.
Music—"Sadoma Military March,"... Honolulu Symphony Club.
Music—"Viva L'America,"... Prof. Yarnley, Chorus by Choir and Audience.
Reading—"Under the Flag," Wm. R. Kinney.
Music—"The Red, White and Blue,"... Max Pracht, Chorus by Choir and Audience.
Oration—... Comrade A. S. Hartwell.
Music—Medley: "Recollections of the War," Royal Hawaiian Band.
Closing Exercises—... Geo. W. De Long Post.

The music was under the direction of Prof. J. W. Yarnley, and the choir was composed of the following ladies and gentlemen: Soprano—Mrs. E. A. I. Cruzan, Mrs. J. E. Hanford, Miss M. Hopper, Miss S. E. Piece, Miss Alice Renton, Miss Emma Renton. Alto—Mrs. J. F. Brown, Miss Carrie Castle, Miss L. L. Moore, Miss Kate Lewis, Miss Kate Rodgers. Tenor—W. W. Hall, Max Pracht, J. T. Waterhouse, Jr. Bass—J. L. Ross, N. B. Emerson, F. J. Lowrey, J. W. Yarnley.

The Symphony Club consisted of Miss C. Castle, piano; J. W. Yarnley and A. Kraft, 1st violin; E. Muller and W. H. Herrick, 2nd violin; A. Marques, viola; J. F. Brown, violoncello; C. H. Morse, flute; C. H. Brown and M. H. Jones, clarionets; Chas. Michiels Cornet.

GRAND BALL.

Under the Auspices of the British Benevolent Society.

The Society's Ball was held Tuesday evening. Such a long interval having elapsed since the last public dance, this ball was looked forward to by Honolulu Society with no small amount of pleasure. The usual day on which it is held is the 24th May, the Queen's birthday; but for obvious reasons it was this year postponed to the 27th May. Unfortunately, the temperature was exceedingly high all day Tuesday—altogether too high for dancing, but this did not deter the youthful portions of both sexes, of whom there were a goodly number present, from indulging in the mazy waltz to the soul-stirring music of Berger's renowned string band.

The guests were received by Mrs. Wodehouse, Mrs. Mackintosh, and Mrs. Davies. His Majesty the King arrived a few minutes after nine o'clock and remained throughout the evening. The invited guests were H. R. H. Princess Liliuokalani, H. R. H. Princess Likelike, His Ex. Gov. Dominis, His Majesty's Ministers, Minister Daggett and lady, Mons. Feer and ladies, and Senhor Canavaro and lady.

The floral decorations of the Hall were evidently managed by an artist. There was no superabundance of evergreens, but a sufficiency well arranged in every nook and corner. Flags embellished the walls and galleries, the most prominent being the English Jack and the Hawaiian ensign suspended over the proscenium.

The floor committee consisted of eight gentlemen all of whom filled their respective roles with enthusiasm.

Of the supper it is only necessary to state that it was provided by the Hart Bros. who as chefs excelled themselves on this occasion. Dancing was kept up until an early hour in the morning and with the exception of the weather, the ball was pronounced to be a grand success.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements made, or opinions expressed by our correspondents.

MR. EDITOR.—Your correspondent "C," in issue of May 27th, touches upon a matter concerning which I have made frequent inquiries during my stay on these islands, but with indifferent success as to results.

It would strike an observer from abroad, as quite reasonable that some attention should be paid to the marketing of such fibres as "C" describes, but the capacity of your soil and climate to produce, is offset by the listless apathy of your people to prepare for market, the entire energy of your population being seemingly directed towards sugar and rice, and it may require the entire lesson of "Production vs. Consumption" to be taught your people, before they will turn from the monotony of sugar to the multifarious industries of fruit, wine, olive oil, &c., for which the valleys of the Islands are even better adapted than the raising of cane. With an over production of sugar all over the world, and a conse-

quent shrinkage of profits upon that staple, will come a reaction in favor of the smaller and more comprehensive industries I have mentioned.

Nearly all grades of fibre will find a ready market in San Francisco; the commoner grades for paper making, the next in quality for bag making purposes, while the best, such as Manila banana, will meet with a ready sale for making cordage. Of the grades fit for making bagging for sugar, my house in San Francisco—Neville & Co.—can use unlimited quantities, our present consumption amounting to 4,000 lbs. per day, and gradually increasing, while our capacity for handling the other grades of fibres for paper and rope maker's use is limited only by the quantity offered—quality and price to compete with similar or nearly similar fibres now imported into the United States from Mexico and Central America.

If your correspondent "C" will furnish me with samples, name prices at which he can land them in San Francisco or on the docks at Honolulu, I can, by return of S. S. Alameda (upon which I return home) give him such further information as will no doubt lead to a direct and profitable trade, due preference being shown to such as are best fitted for our own purposes, i.e., weaving and sewing into various grades of bags.

Sincerely,
MAX PRACHT.
Honolulu, May 27, 1884.

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